

**In the Claims:**

Amend Claim 1 to read as follows:

Claim 1. (Amended) A reclosable fastener profile assembly, said assembly comprising:

a continuous supply of a first profile strip including at least one rib that extends from the surface of said first strip;

a continuous supply of a second profile strip opposite said first strip; said second strip including at least two ribs that extend from the surface of said second strip; said rib of said first strip and said ribs of said second strip adapted to sealingly engage and maintain an airtight seal when so engaged;

and

a compression molded segment seal portion fusing said first profile strip, said second profile strip and said ribs of said first profile strip and said second profile strip; said compression molded segment seal including a fused section of said first and second profile strips formed through the application of heat and pressure; said fused section substantially flattened to form an airtight seal of said first and second profile strips, without distorting said ribs of said first and second profile strips outside of said fused section, thereby maintaining said airtight seal of said first and second profile strips when interlocked.

Cancel Claim 2. ✓

Cancel Claim 3. ✓

Cancel Claim 12. ✓

Enter 1  
for  
Appeal. B  
3/5/02

Amend Claim 18 to read as follows:

Claim 18 (Amended) A reclosable storage bag comprising:

a first bag wall;

a second bag wall; and

a reclosable fastener profile assembly, said assembly comprising:

a first profile strip including at least one rib that extends from the surface of said first strip;

a second profile strip opposite said first strip said strip including at least two ribs that extend from the surface of said second strip; said rib of said first strip and said ribs of said second strip adapted to sealingly engage and maintain an airtight seal when so engaged; and

a compression molded segment seal portion fusing said first profile strip, said second profile strip and said ribs of said first profile strip and said second profile strip; said compression molded segment seal including a fused section of said first and second profile strips formed through the application of heat and pressure; said fused section substantially flattened to form an airtight seal of said first and second profile strips, without distorting said ribs of said first and second profile strips outside of said fused section, thereby maintaining said airtight seal of said first and second profile strips when interlocked; wherein said first profile strip and said second profile strip are heat sealed to said first bag wall and said second bag wall, respectively.

Cancel claim 20. ✓